for some time and Government will then proceed to take action on the proposals now made.

79. Appointment of a Commission to enquire into the propriety of granting the right of partition to the Nanjanad Vellalas.

Mr. P. Mathevan Pillai (*Nanjanattar Sabha, Nagercoil*) said that he would present a separate memorial on the subject.

Reply.—This is akin to the previous subject and the same reply will apply to it also.

80. That certain proceedings of the Judicial department are detrimental to the interests of the public.

Mr. C. Padmanabha Pillai (*Karunagapalli*) said that there were delays and irregularities in many of the proceedings of the judicial department. Though there was a rule that decrees should be given within two weeks after the pronouncement of judgment, this was seldom observed in practice, nor were decrees executed with expedition. Warrants for execution were hardly issued in time and batta was not properly paid to the witnesses. The attendance of judicial officers was irregular and calendars were not properly examined. Further, the present rule was that in suits valued above Rs. 500 the appeal should be presented only to the High Court, while in the case of suits below that sum the District Courts could afford relief. He suggested that in all cases the appeal should lie to the District Court in the first instance. All the witnesses appearing in a case were not examined and this tended towards miscarriage of justice. Encumbrance certificates were now required to be produced only for properties worth above Rs. 250, but even this was a hardship and it would be better to dispense with their production altogether. Interest was now adjudged on no uniform principle, some judicial officers calculating it from the date of plaint and others from the date of judgment. The latter was the correct rule. Affidavits might be dispensed with and oaths substituted in lieu of them. Copies of judicial records were indistinctly made and not expeditiously issued. Copying fees amounted to 8 chs. and comparing fees to 1 ch. per sheet. The member suggested that the former might be reduced to 4 chs. and the latter abolished altogether. He concluded by observing that judicial officers in some places collected money from litigants for the performance of religious ceremonies in temples and prayed that this and other irregularities above detailed by him might be put a stop to.

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